



**United States Attorney's Office
District of Columbia**

**Ronald C. Machen Jr.
United States Attorney**

PRESS RELEASE

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Three Admit Stealing Mail from Law Firms and Others

Washington, D.C. - Three individuals, Lisa Davis Locke, 45, of the 1800 block of 2nd Street, NW, Washington, D.C., Terry Locke, 40, of the 800 block of Euclid Street, NW, Washington, D.C., and Alicia Davis, 23, of the 1800 block of 2nd Street, NW, Washington, D.C., have pled guilty today to a variety of charges including conspiracy to possess stolen mail and aggravated identity theft, U.S. Attorney Ronald C. Machen Jr. and U.S. Postal Inspector in Charge Daniel Cortez announced today.

The three defendants entered their guilty pleas on April 29, 2010, in U.S. District Court before the Honorable James Robertson, who will impose sentence on July 12, 2010. Lisa Locke faces a sentence of not less than two years, but not more than five years of incarceration, Terry Locke agreed to be sentenced to a fixed period of three years of incarceration, and Alicia Davis faces up to 180 days in jail.

As part of her plea, Lisa Locke admitted that, beginning from at least as early as January 2007 and continuing until April 18, 2008, she participated in a conspiracy to possess stolen mail and to present forged checks to banks, either directly or through check cashing stores. Lisa Locke knew that others were involved in the conspiracy, which involved stealing mail from places such as the law firms of Venable LLP (hereinafter Venable) and Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal LLP in the District of Columbia. Lisa Locke also knew that members of the conspiracy possessed stolen mail of people who lived in the District of Columbia. Lisa Locke knew that the mail was stolen in order to find financial documents, such as checks, as well as identification information, such as social security numbers. Lisa Locke knew that financial documents and identification information stolen from the mail were stored at her residence on 2nd Street, NW, Washington, D.C. Lisa Locke knew that the mail of many more than 50 people had been stolen during the course of the conspiracy.

During the conspiracy, in addition to stolen checks she cashed by herself, Lisa Locke knew that another member of the conspiracy was going to cash a check stolen from Venable after November 20, 2007, that was payable to

THE PROPELLER CLUB OF WASHINGTON (NM)
A---W---C---, Venable, LLC
575 7th Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20004

AWC is a real person who was then employed at Venable. The payment amount was \$1,000, and the check was drawn on the Bank of America, a financial institution then insured by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation. Because the name AWC was the correct payee of the check, Lisa Locke knew that AWC was a real person. Lisa Locke also knew that in order to cash the check a false endorsement and identification in the name of the real AWC would be used. In fact, on or about November 30, 2007, the check was cashed at Bloomingdale Liquors in the District of Columbia using a false identification in the name of AWC. Lisa Locke did not cash the check, but she knew it was going to be cashed as part of the conspiracy and profited from it being cashed.

On or about April 18, 2008, a search warrant was executed at Lisa Locke's home on 2nd Street, NW. At that time, Lisa Locke knew that among the pieces of stolen mail stored in her residence, were checks stolen from the mail at Venable. One of these checks found during execution of the search warrant was payable to Venable in the amount of \$5,491.00 and was dated November 19, 2007.

As part of his plea, Terry Locke admitted that, between December 10, 2007 and April 18, 2008, Terry Locke worked for Williams Lea, which provided mail room services to the law firm of Sonnenschein Nath & Rosenthal LLP (hereafter Sonnenschein) in Washington, D.C. While assigned to work at Sonnenschein, Terry Locke stole pieces of mail that contained checks.

Terry Locke knew others who cashed stolen checks by use of false endorsements and false identification cards. Terry Locke knew that the others stored financial documents and identification information stolen from the mail at the residence of Lisa Locke on 2nd Street, NW, Washington, D.C. Terry Locke added the checks he stole from Sonnenschein to the stolen mail stored at Lisa Locke's residence on 2nd Street, NW, intending that the checks would be available to be cashed by the others.

On or about April 18, 2008, a search warrant was executed at the residence of Lisa Locke on 2nd Street, NW. Among the pieces of stolen mail discovered during execution of the search warrant were five checks payable to Sonnenschein with check dates and amounts as follows:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Amount</u>
January 31, 2008	\$ 1,120.00
February 7, 2008	\$ 4,215.10
February 8, 2008	\$ 9,845.00
February 22, 2008	\$ 204.00
March 1, 2008	\$ 6,687.45

Terry Locke also did not dispute that the government has evidence that could be argued to show greater involvement by him in the conspiracy.

As part of her plea, Alicia Davis agreed that, on or about April 9, 2008, Alicia Davis presented three checks, totaling \$1,475, to a cashier at a branch of PNC Bank in Washington, D.C. Alicia Davis deposited the checks into an account that had been opened fraudulently in a false name. Along with the three checks, Alicia Davis presented a completed deposit slip on which was written the false name in which the account had been opened. Each of the three checks deposited by Alicia Davis had been stolen; each was payable to WH; and each had been signed by a different person. Further, each of the three checks deposited by Alicia Davis had been fraudulently endorsed with the name WH. Bank photos show Alicia Davis making the deposit.

In announcing the guilty pleas, U.S. Attorney Machen and U. S. Postal Inspector in Charge Cortez commended the work of U.S. Postal Inspector Dean Davis, who investigated the case. They also commended Financial Analyst Crystal Boodoo and Paralegal Specialist Carolyn Cody of the Fraud and Public Corruption Section as well as Assistant U.S. Attorneys Jonathan Haray and Thomas E. Zeno.

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